# Annual Report

Alberta

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# Annual Report

YEAR-END MARCH 31, 1981

Alberta

ATTORNEY GENERAL

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ATTORNEY GENERAL

403/427-5032

Office of
the Deputy Attorney General

9833-109 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
T5K 2E8

May 24, 1982

The Honourable Neil Crawford, Q.C.,
Attorney General of Alberta,
227 Legislature Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.
T5K 2B6

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to present the seventh Annual Report of the Department of the Attorney General for the fiscal year April 1, 1980 to March 31, 1981.

The volume and complexity of the demands placed upon the Department have continued to increase in proportion to the population and economic growth of the Province of Alberta.

That the administration of justice in Alberta is so well served is due in great measure to the Department's dedicated and competent employees.

Respectfully submitted,

R W Paisley

Ross W. Paisley, Q.C.,
Deputy Attorney General.

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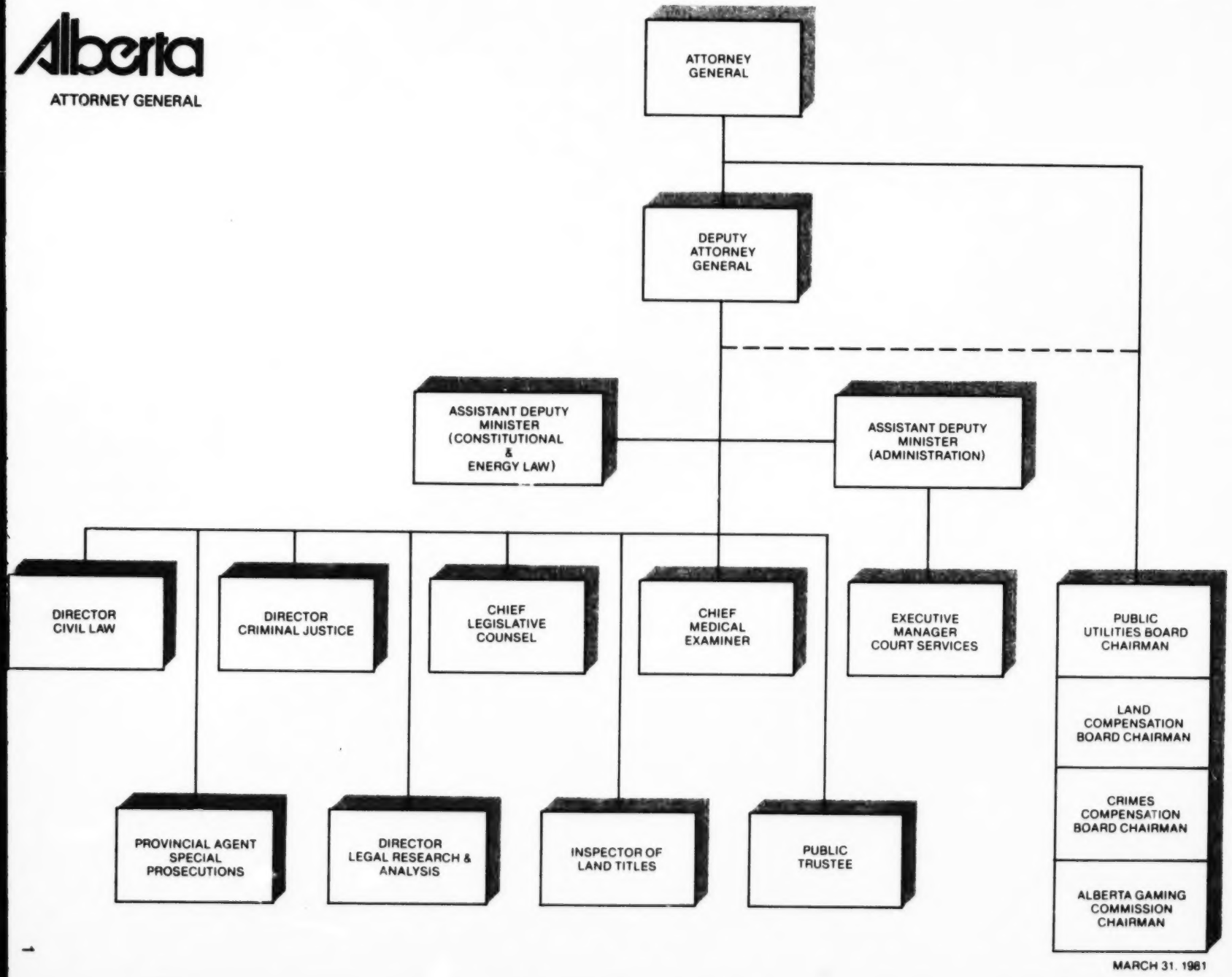
The Bowker Building
9833 - 109 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2E8

Alberta

ATTORNEY GENERAL




MARCH 31, 1981

# The Attorney General of Alberta: Duties and Responsibilities

Section 92 of the British North America Act provides, in part, as follows:

"In each province the Legislature may exclusively make laws in relation to matters coming within the classes of subjects next hereinafter enumerated; that is to say . . . 92(14) The Administration of Justice in the Province, including the Constitution, Maintenance, and Organization of Provincial Courts, both of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction, and including Procedure in Civil Matters in those Courts."

Traditionally in this country, the Attorney General of each province has fulfilled the responsibilities referred to in Section 92 (14). The phrase "administration of justice in the province" had been the subject of much comment in the cases over the years since Confederation in 1867. In a 1976 judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada in Di Iorio and Fontaine v Warden of Common Jail of Montreal and Trunet et al Mr. Justice Dickson, speaking for the majority, made it clear that this phrase encompasses not only civil justice but also criminal justice.

Although the administration of civil justice is certainly of importance, it is useful to refer to another quotation of Mr. Justice Dickson in the Di Iorio case to clarify the extent and scope of the administration of criminal justice. In the Di Iorio judgment, Mr. Justice Dickson stated as follows:

"The question in the present case is whether the words 'The Administration of Justice in the Province' are to be given a fair, large and liberal construction or, whether by reason of the abstraction of criminal law and criminal procedure, they must receive such attentuated interpretation as would confine 'administration of justice' to nothing more than 'administration of civil justice'. In my opinion, Canada legislative history, as well as the development of legal institutions within the provinces since Confederation, favour the broader construction as do, by and large, the authorities, admittedly few in number, which touch upon the subject under consideration.

Since Confederation, the provincial departments of the Attorney General have in practice 'administered justice' in the broadest sense, at great expense to the taxpayers, and irrespective of whether the laws being administered fell legislatively within the purview of provincial legislatures or the federal Parliament. This is reflected in the provision of police services and other enforcement agencies responsible to the provincial Attorneys General for the investigation, detection and control of crime within the respective provinces and in the maintenance of staffs for the prosecution of all types of infractions whether within the purview of provincial legislatures or the federal Parliament. In this way the provinces have perpetuated since Confederation the comprehensive powers in the administration of justice which they enjoyed and exercised in pre-Confederation times and which the framers of the BNA Act would seem to have intended them to continue to have. Explaining the British North America Bill in the British Parliament, the Earl of Carnarvon stated on 19th February 1867:

'To the Central Parliament will also be assigned the enactment of criminal law. The administration of it indeed is vested in the local authorities; but the power of general legislation is properly reserved for the Central Parliament.' "

In keeping with the exclusive power given to the provinces by the BNA Act in relation to certain matters, Alberta passed in 1905 the first Attorney General's Act which is found in the present-day statutes of Alberta in substantially the same form as it appeared in 1905, in The Department of the Attorney General Act. Section 3 of that act deals in a more complete way with the scope of the responsibilities of the Attorney General of Alberta, giving due emphasis to functions performed by the Civil Law Division, Court Services, and the Criminal Justice Division, as well as the Public Trustee, the Inspector of Land Titles, the Chief Medical Examiner, Legislative Counsel, the Director of Legal Research and Analysis and the Constitutional Law Section. Section 3 sets out specific responsibilities which are not to be taken as exhaustive.

Section 3 is set out below:

3. The Attorney General shall

(a) be the official legal advisor of the Lieutenant Governor.

(b) ensure that public affairs are administered according to law.

(c) superintend such matters relating to the administration of justice in the Province as are within the powers or jurisdiction of the Legislature or Government of the Province.

(d) advise on legislative acts and proceedings of the legislature of the Province and generally advise the Crown on matters of law referred to him by the Crown.

(e) exercise the powers and is charged with the duties attached to the office of the Attorney General of England by law or usage insofar as those powers and duties are applicable to Alberta.

(f) advise the heads of the several departments of the Government on matters of law connected with them respectively.

(g) settle instruments issued under the Great Seal of the Province.

(h) regulate and conduct litigation for or against the Crown or a public department in respect of subjects within the authority or jurisdiction of the Legislature.

(i) be charged generally with such duties as may be at any time assigned to the Attorney General of the Province by law or by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and

(j) be responsible for the conduct of the matters hereinafter set out, the enumeration of which shall not be taken to restrict the general nature of any provision of this Act.

(i) Repealed 1973, c. 67, s. 5(b).

(ii) the supervision of the administration of the law governing titles to real property in the Province,

(iii) the recommendation of the appointment of and the giving of advice to sheriffs, registrars, judicial officers, justices of the peace, coroners, notaries public and commissioners for oaths,

(iv) the consideration of applications for bail and attendance thereon,

(v) the consideration and argument of appeals from convictions and acquittals of persons charged with indictable offences,

(vi) the hearing of applications for the granting of fiats regarding petitions of right, criminal informations, indictments, actions to set aside Crown patents, actions to recover fines and penalties and other actions of a similar nature,

(vii) the consideration of applications for the remission of fines and penalties,

(viii) the appointment of counsel for the conduct of criminal business,

(ix) the arrangement of the sittings of the courts of justice in the Province and the regulation of the work of official court reporters,

(x) the supervision of the offices of the courts of law in the Province,

(xi) the examination of papers in connection with the admission and discharge of lunatics to and from asylums,

(xii) the consideration of proposed legislation and other matters of a public nature, and

(xiii) the drawing of special conveyances and instruments of a similar nature relating to the sale or purchase of property under any Act relating to public works or otherwise.

(R.S.A. 1970, c. 95, s. 3; 1973, c. 67, s. 5)

It has been the custom for the Lieutenant Governor in Council to appoint the Deputy Attorney General of Alberta as inspector of Legal Offices.

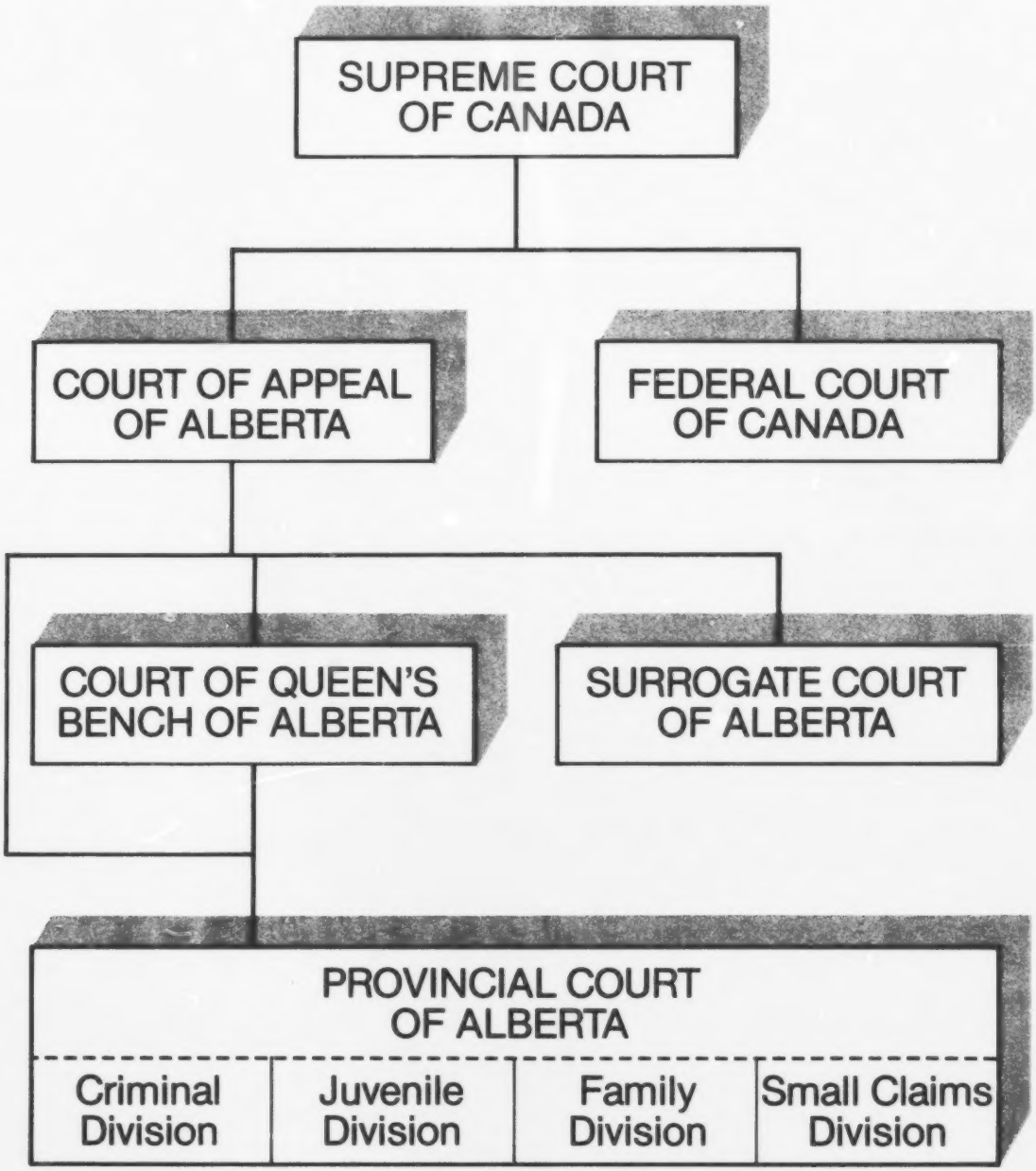
# Courts in Alberta

There are four courts in Alberta, all constituted by provincial statute and administered by the Attorney General of Alberta:

The Court of Appeal of Alberta
The Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta
The Surrogate Court of Alberta
The Provincial Court of Alberta

In addition, registries are maintained by the Attorney General's staff for the Federal Court of Canada in Alberta.

The Supreme Court of Canada, although not constituted or administered provincially, is the court of last appeal for the courts of provincial jurisdiction.



## JUDICIAL DISTRICTS
## PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

.....JUDICIAL BOUNDARIES

## Court of Appeal of Alberta

*Chief Justice of Alberta: Wm. A. McGillivray*

The Chief Justice presides over the Court of Appeal of Alberta. In addition to the Chief Justice, this court consists of eight judges called Justices of Appeal who are assigned by the Governor General in Council. The court hears appeals, usually in panels of three justices, from all other courts in the Province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Its decisions may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa.

### Appointments

Three new appointments were made to the Court of Appeal during this period and one justice became supernumerary.

### Caseload Statistics

During the fiscal period, the number of civil appeals filed increased by 13.7% from 517 to 588, over the previous fiscal period. However, the number of civil appeals heard decreased 17.3% from 300 to 248. Small decreases were also experienced in the filing and hearing of criminal appeals. The number of criminal appeals filed decreased 2.1% from 903 to 844 while the number of criminal appeals heard decreased 3.1% from 1,044 to 1,012.

## Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta

*Chief Justice: W. R. Sinclair*

On November 27, 1980, The Court of Queen's Bench Act was amended. The amendment increased the number of judges for the Court of Queen's Bench from 38 to 42. In addition, the amendment provided for an Associate Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench.

### Appointments

During the fiscal period, seven new justices were appointed and three Court of Queen's Bench Justices were appointed to the Court of Appeal. The Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench are appointed by the Governor General in Council.

### Caseload Statistics

Increases were experienced in all areas of the Court of Queen's Bench with the exception of the number of civil trials heard and the number of summary conviction appeals filed. The number of civil trials heard decreased by 25.3% from 2,064 in the 1979-1980 fiscal period to 1,541 in the current period. Statistical details are provided in Table 1 on page 21.

## Surrogate Court of Alberta

*Chief Justice: W. R. Sinclair*

The Surrogate Court is a court of record. It has jurisdiction in relation to testamentary matters and in the issuing of grants of probate and administration. It also has jurisdiction in matters related to the appointment of guardians and to the person and property of children under guardianship.

The Chief Justice and the other Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta also sit as Judges of the Surrogate Court. The Court of Queen's Bench exercises the jurisdiction given to the Surrogate Court.

## The Provincial Court of Alberta

*Chief Judge: C. A. Kosowan*

On April 29, 1980, His Honour C. A. Kosowan was appointed Chief Judge of the Provincial Court.

The Provincial Court exercises both civil and criminal jurisdiction: civil by virtue of Part 4 — The Provincial Court Act, 1978 and The Landlord and Tenant Act; and criminal by virtue of the Criminal Code and a variety of provincial statutes.

### Judicial Appointments

During the fiscal period, six additional judges were appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, one each for Edmonton, Edmonton rural, Peace River, Red Deer, Edmonton Small Claims and Calgary Small Claims. As a result, the complement of judicial appointments consists of 91 permanent positions and two per diem positions.

### The Provincial Court Act, 1978

On May 1, 1980, The Provincial Court Act, 1978 was proclaimed. The primary effect of the legislation was to create the four divisions of the Provincial Court: Criminal Division, Juvenile Division, Family Division and Small Claims Division.

### The Landlord and Tenant Act

In conjunction with the proclamation of The Provincial Court Act, 1978, Part 5 of The Landlord and Tenant Act was also proclaimed May 1, 1980. This legislation provided the Provincial Court with additional jurisdiction to deal with landlord and tenant matters.

### Base Points

Two Provincial Court base points were opened in Edmonton Judicial District during the fiscal period. St. Albert was opened July 1, 1980 and September 1, 1980 saw the opening of Fort Saskatchewan. This brings to six the number of Provincial Court base points opened in the Edmonton Judicial District rural area. A seventh base point, Stony Plain, is scheduled to open August 31, 1981.

# Sections on Special Matters

## Civil Law

*Director: Vacant*

The Civil Law Division acts as legal advisor to all departments, and many of the boards and agencies of government. It represents the Crown in all courts of civil jurisdiction.

Lawyers in the Civil Law Division act as counsel in public inquiries under The Fatality Inquiries Act.

**Staffing**

Civil Law has a legal staff complement of 57 lawyers. There are six students at law in its articling program.

**Student Program**

Civil law offers a summer program to a limited number of law students. The program is intended to familiarize second year law students with the judicial process, the registries system, and the legal services provided by the department.

**Program Development**

Civil lawyers attend in-service training programs and seminars sponsored by the Alberta Government Civil Lawyers Association, and the Legal Education Society of Alberta as well as meetings of the Alberta and Canadian Bar Associations.

## Constitutional and Energy Law

*Assistant Deputy Minister: W. Henkel, Q.C.*

The Constitutional and Energy Law Section gives legal advice to the provincial government primarily on matters involving constitutional law.

Constitutional issues involve all fields of law and the issues dealt with by this section are varied and complex. This section appears in all levels of court throughout the province and in the Supreme Court of Canada on cases involving a constitutional or human rights issue. The Attorney General is required to be notified under Section 31 (now section 25) of The Judicature Act and under Section 4 of The Alberta Bill of Rights, and may appear as an intervenant in legal proceedings where parties in a court action intend to raise these issues.

Constitutional lawyers also appear with Crown counsel on criminal cases where the validity of a section of The Criminal Code of Canada is challenged or where its operability is challenged on the basis that it violates The Canadian Bill of Rights.

Lawyers in this section are required to prepare legal opinions and to work on intergovernmental or interdepartmental committees dealing with the constitutional validity of both existing and contemplated federal and provincial laws. The energy field, for example, has received much attention this last year because of its importance to Albertans and Canadians. The applicability of provincial laws arises where some federally regulated interprovincial enterprise or a particular group takes the position that Alberta laws do not apply to them. Questions evolve, for example, as to whether certain provincial laws are applicable on native reserves, in national parks or on federal property such as defence bases. At other times, the operability of provincial laws is challenged on the grounds that they conflict with valid federal laws or that they are contrary to The Individual's Rights Protection Act or The Alberta Bill of Rights.

In addition, members of this section are called upon to speak to groups both inside and outside the government on matters of concern in their areas of expertise. During this past year, they were involved extensively in the federal/provincial discussions on the patriation and amendment of Canada's constitution. The subject matter under discussion and the proposals put forward were scrutinized by this section's lawyers who also attended and contributed to meetings held by the Continuing Committee of Ministers on the Constitution.

During this fiscal year, counsel from Constitutional and Energy Law appeared with the Deputy Attorney General in a reference to the Court of Appeal of Alberta to argue successfully that the proposed federal excise tax on natural gas does not apply to provincially owned wells; and were intervenants in references to the Courts of Appeal of Manitoba, Newfoundland and Quebec as to the federal government's jurisdiction to unilaterally patriate and amend Canada's constitution.

## Criminal Justice

*Director: Y. Roslak, Q.C.*

Criminal Justice is responsible for the administration of criminal justice throughout the province.

**Staffing**

A reorganization of Criminal Justice took place June 9, 1980. Two regional agents of the Attorney General, northern and southern, were appointed to be responsible for the prosecutorial offices in the northern and southern regions of the province, respectively. Criminal Justice has a general prosecutorial staff of 114 full-time Crown counsel located by region at the following centers: northern — head office nine, Edmonton 37, Wetaskiwin four, Peace River five, Grande Prairie three, Hinton two, Fort McMurray two, St. Paul two, Vegreville one, Lloydminster one; southern — Calgary 31, Drumheller one, Lethbridge eight, Medicine Hat three, Red Deer five.

The central office of Criminal Justice in Edmonton is charged with general prosecutorial duties, special projects and research projects. The office is responsible for the Judicial District of Vegreville. Certain boards and government agencies, for example, Gaming Control, refer special criminal considerations to this section. Suggestions for amendments to the Criminal Code and other statutes are researched by and proposed through this section which is staffed by nine Crown counsel.

### Revision of the Criminal Code of Canada

Criminal Justice is participating in a five-year project with the Law Reform Commission of Canada and with the representatives of the Attorneys General of Canada and the provinces. The project is expected to achieve the most fundamental and complete revision of the Criminal Code of Canada since its enactment in 1892.

### Student Program

Criminal Justice cooperates with Civil Law to provide a program for articling students. This program is preliminary to admission to the Alberta Bar. Six students were articled to senior members of Criminal Justice and participated in courtroom appearances and legal research during this fiscal period.

### Professional Development

Crown counsel attended various seminars and meetings sponsored by the Alberta Crown Attorneys' Association, Federation of Law Societies of Canada, and Western Canada Crown Seminar in April of 1980 and March of 1981. In addition, a number of Crown counsel attended various meetings of the Law Society of Alberta and the Canadian Bar Association.

The Alberta Crown Attorneys' Association held meetings in May and September of 1980. Discussions, lectures and panels were conducted on legal subjects. Association business was dealt with at the September meeting.

### Data Processing

The first on-line data processing system designed specifically for prosecutorial offices and known as the Prosecutor Oriented Management Information System (PROMIS) began operating in Edmonton in August of 1980 and in Calgary in October of 1980. This system provides for tracking all the cases for which the two major prosecutorial offices are responsible and allows for the production of reports for the Crown Counsel Case Reporting System, which has been in existence since 1976. PROMIS also produces all subpoenas for witnesses and court attendance notices for the municipal police forces in Edmonton and Calgary.

## Gaming Control

*Chief Inspector: R. R. Sheppard*

The Gaming Control Branch has 33 full-time staff attending to three areas of responsibility: licencing review, audit and investigation. As of January 1, 1981 the responsibility for licencing was transferred to the newly created Alberta Gaming Commission.

### Gaming in Alberta

Gaming statistics show that in 1980 Albertans spent $155.1 million at bingos, casinos, raffles and pull-ticket schemes — a $30 million increase over 1979 and a $25 million increase over 1978.

The Gaming Control system of statistical inventory gathering was changed in 1979 to avoid splitting licencing periods. Consequently, statistics indicate a $5 million decrease in 1979 compared to 1978, when in fact the amount gambled by the public was steadily rising. By averaging the increase between the years 1978 to 1980, a more accurate trend is established.

Gaming Control began compiling statistics in 1974. A review of these statistics up to and including 1980 revealed the following percentage increases in licenced gambling during the past five years:

| | |
|---|---|
| Bingos | 130.0% |
| Casinos | 1209.4% |
| Raffles | 66.0% |
| Pull Tickets | 288.6% |

A statement of licencing, events and fees for the calendar year ending December 31, 1980 is available in Table 2 on page 21.

## Land Titles

*Inspector of Land Titles Offices: D. M. Lamont, Q.C.*

### Background

Alberta is divided into two Land Registration Districts at Township 34 with the Land Titles Office for the South District located in Calgary and the Land Titles Office for the North District located in Edmonton. Each office is responsible for the examination and registration of land-related documents, issuance and updating of titles, custody of original documents, survey plans and titles, and provision of searches of titles, plans and documents to the public. Activities of Land Titles Offices are provided in Table 3 on page 22.

**Public Service**

Document registration volume increased slightly over the previous fiscal year to a total of 546,206. The number of survey plans registered reflected the trend, increasing only 6.7% to 4,876 in 1980-81. There was a significant increase in tax recovery activity with the number of titles endorsed rising by 10.2% and the number of tax notices issued climbing by 14.4%. Title and document searches increased 23.7% to 5,266,564 pages. Almost all the increases in registrations and searches occurred in the South District.

**Systems Development**

An information systems planning study was completed in May 1980. This study examined the information requirements of the various Land Titles users. Its purpose was to develop an information systems structure and an active plan to serve as a guide for future systems improvements, especially in the area of computerization. Land Titles representatives participated in the Land Related Information Systems Coordination Project and the Alberta Land Registry Committee. The function of the Alberta Land Registry Committee is to ensure that enhancements to the Land Titles system and Alberta Energy and Natural Resources' Crown lands records system achieve an acceptable degree of continuity between and accessibility to the two systems.

## Legal Research and Analysis

*Director: E. F. Gamache*

This section researches and analyzes statute law, judicial decisions and legal periodicals, and provides the Attorney General and the Deputy Attorney General with legal advice on law reform, revision of law and policy planning.

Members of the section serve on interdepartmental committees studying law reform, professions and occupations, municipal by-laws, the joint Alberta Government/Law Society committee for law libraries in Alberta, the Institute of Law Research and Reform, the Uniform Law Conference of Canada. This section maintains a liaison with other law reform bodies.

During the fiscal year, the section developed legislation related to interprovincial subpoenas, partnerships, Provincial Court Judges, the Public Trustee, The Public Inquiries Act, service of documents during postal interruptions, reciprocal enforcement of maintenance orders.

The section is involved with research projects in gratuitous passengers, personal property security, juries, builders' liens, pre-judgment interest, administrative law, expropriation, criminal injuries compensation, land titles and family relief.

## Legislative Counsel Office

*Chief Legislative Counsel: P. J. Pagano*

The Legislative Counsel Office prepared 94 public and general acts assented to during the year ending March 31, 1981 and 1,225 orders in council passed by Cabinet during that period. It also drafted the majority of the 416 regulations that were filed under The Regulations Act.

The office has a total staff of 24, including nine lawyers, one of whom is assigned to prepare the revision of the Statutes of Alberta. This revision will be available in the fall of 1981.

The computerization of the routine operations of the office continued during 1980-81. In addition, a search and retrieval system has been installed.

## Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

*Chief Medical Examiner: Dr. J. C. Butt*

The Chief Medical Examiner is based in Calgary with responsibility for the entire province. The northern region is administered by the Deputy Chief Medical Examiner in Edmonton. Construction of a purpose-built Edmonton facility incorporating office, morgue and a toxicology laboratory is virtually complete.

**Medical Examiner System**

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner investigates unexpected or unexplained deaths, including all unnatural deaths in the province. These represent about 30% of all deaths.

Investigations are conducted by approximately 160 medical examiners appointed on a fee for service basis. There are also three full-time forensic pathologists in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

The Fatality Inquiries Act also requires the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to issue certificates approving cremation, shipment out of province or dissection under The Universities Act.

**Education**

The office continues to educate medical persons, police officers, ambulance operators, funeral directors and other personnel involved in the investigation of sudden death as to the provisions of The Fatality Inquiries Act and the proper investigation of sudden death.

Two short films on the Medical Examiner System are available, "Investigating Sudden Death — A Team Approach (1978)" and "Investigation of Sudden Death — External Examination (1979)." Both were produced by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and ACCESS.

An elective in forensic pathology in the pathology residency training program continues at the University of Calgary through the Division of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine. A student elective program in cooperation with the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary is available.

**Public Inquiries**

It is the decision of the Fatality Review Board on whether to hold a public inquiry into a death. The Fatality Review Board is an autonomous, non-government body composed of three members and appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. One member is a lawyer, another a physician and the third a layman. The Chief Medical Examiner is an ex-officio member of this board. Public inquiries are held before a Judge of The Provincial Court of Alberta. There were 60 inquiries in 1980, compared with 68 in 1979.

**Death Notification**

In the 1980-81 fiscal year, there were 4,015 deaths investigated compared with 3,885 in the previous period. The autopsy rate has decreased from 65% in the 1979-80 fiscal year to 41% in 1980-81. Details of case-load volumes for 1980-81 are available in Table 4 on page 23. Medical examiners are encouraged to confine certain of their investigations to an external examination of the body in order to promote lower autopsy rates.

**Statistical Unit**

The office has a computer system comprising case-file information from 1975 to 1979 and portions of 1980 statistics currently on file. The data handling system continues under review with improved efficiency still a priority. The system's primary function is to supply statistics to interested agencies but increased ability for analytical review is being considered. The information is of considerable interest to both government and private agencies with a background in social, educational and medical matters.

## Public Trustee

*Public Trustee: L. W. Gardiner, Q.C.*

The Public Trustee provides three major trust services to protect the assets and financial interests of disadvantaged persons by acting on their behalf in the following capacities:

1. guardian of the estates of missing persons and the estates of children under 18 years of age;
2. trustee of the estates of dependent adults who are legally unable to handle their own business affairs by reason of mental or physical disability;
3. administrator of the estates of deceased persons who die intestate having no relative in the province, or where the next of kin are not prepared to administer the estate and the Public Trustee is requested to accept this responsibility.

During the year, 1,112 new guardianship administrations were commenced to protect the financial interests of missing persons and of children under 18 years of age. This compares with 1,237 administrations opened during the previous year, a decrease of 10.1%. Funds held for children under such administration may be used to assist with living expenses or educational advancement. An amendment to The Public Trustee Act passed in the 1981 spring session of the Legislative Assembly updated the authority under which such disbursements are made to keep pace with monetary inflation. A second amendment also provided statutory authority for the Public Trustee to act as guardian or custodian of the estate of an unborn infant who may have a direct or contingent interest in property.

The number of new administrations of estates of dependent adults increased by 24.3% to 301 compared to 242 commenced during the previous period. Applications have been made to review panels under The Dependent Adults Act in regard to approximately 3,800 existing trust administrations. The applications were made to determine whether there was a continuing need for the Public Trustee's involvement or whether control of the dependent adult's affairs could be returned to that person. Application was also made to the court in 587 cases under The Dependent Adults Act for a review of existing orders directing the Public Trustee to look after the financial affairs of dependent adults.

During the year under review, 627 new deceased estate administrations were undertaken compared to 700 commenced during the previous period, a reduction of 10.4%. Owing to the general increase of personal incomes in the province during recent years, however, deceased estates are now composed of a considerably greater number of assets, liabilities and business involvements than previously encountered by this administration.

Details of the administrations commenced by the Public Trustee during this fiscal period are available in Table 5 on page 23.

Cash deposits made to Public Trustee bank accounts during the year increased by 113.1% to $92.5 million compared to $43.4 million for the previous fiscal period. Much of this increase resulted from a higher rate of investment turnover associated with relatively high short-term interest rates. Trust assets as recorded for administrative purposes increased by 12.7% from $94.3 million to $106.2 million. The trust balance sheet shown in Table 6 on page 24 provides a comparative analysis of assets and liabilities of estates and trusts under administration by the Public Trustee.

## Special Prosecutions

*Provincial Agent: H. B. Casson, Q.C.*

Special Prosecutions provides the Alberta Attorney General with a specialized capacity to prosecute cases of a more complex and time-consuming nature or which, because of their particularly sensitive circumstances, require more exclusive attention.

Most of the cases handled by Special Prosecutions are of a corporate or commercial nature and result from investigations conducted by the Commercial Crimes Section of the R.C.M.P. or municipal police authorities.

The majority of prosecutions are for offences under Part VIII of the Criminal Code; that is, Fraudulent Transactions Relating to Contracts and Trade.

Special Prosecutions consists of five Crown counsel under the direction of the Provincial Agent and operates from two offices in Edmonton and Calgary. Two of the Crown counsel members are located in Calgary.

# Administration

*Assistant Deputy Minister: C. R. Shank*

The office of Assistant Deputy Minister (Administration) is responsible to the Deputy Attorney General for the administration of all non-legal departmental staff functions, and provides line management with advice, guidance and support in these matters.

The areas reporting to this office are: Administrative Services, Communications, Court Services, Internal Audit, Financial Services, Personal Property Registration, Personnel Services and Planning, Research and Development.

## Administrative Services

*Manager: H. A. Brinton*

This branch was established in March 1980 to oversee general administrative functions such as directives, forms management, materials and facilities, micrographics, official documents and appointments, records management and reprographics.

The areas reporting to the manager of this branch are: Special Services, Materials and Facilities Management, Micrographic Services, Official Documents and Appointments and Central Records.

**Special Services**

Special Services is responsible for methods and procedural studies, the analysis and design of departmental forms and reports, maintenance of the forms management program and the operation of a reprographics unit. Methods and procedures studies were conducted for the Family and Juvenile Divisions of The Provincial Court of Alberta, Sheriff's Office and the Personal Property Registration Branch. Project support was provided for computerization of the Central and Vehicle Registries, Personal Property Registration Branch, and development of The Personal Property Security Act.

**Materials and Facilities**

Materials and Facilities Management provides a central purchasing and supply function and administration of facility and accommodation projects constructed for the department.

During the fiscal year 1980-81, considerable progress has been made in the court facility construction program. New courthouses have opened in Fort Saskatchewan and St. Albert along with new Provincial Court facilities in communities such as Cardston, Cochrane and Grande Centre.

In September 1980, the head office of the Attorney General moved to the newly renovated Natural Resources Building, located at 109 Street and 98 Avenue in Edmonton. The move has consolidated administrative functions and has improved communications and increased efficiency.

The Edmonton Medical Examiner's facility has been virtually completed and tenders have been issued for construction of a similar facility in Calgary.

Progress has been made on the standardization and upgrading of Crown counsel and Legal Aid offices throughout the province.

**Micrographic Services**

This section provides microfilming, processing, editing and duplicating services to the department through two labs in Calgary and Edmonton. The unit also provides advice and assistance on micrographic services.

A total of 7,075,045 camera exposures, creating micrographic records, were done last year through both labs. This was an increase of 191,364 from the previous year's figure of 6,883,681.

During the year, a special project was started to convert the old title book system in Edmonton to microfilm. Five hundred and twenty-eight of the 7,300 title books were converted during this period.

**Official Documents and Appointments**

Official Documents and Appointments in responsible for the administration of the appointments of commissioners for oaths, notaries public and the administration of the Provincial Secretary's Office.

The appointment of 2,074 commissioners for oaths without fee resulted in a fee remission of $20,740, an increase of $9,940 over the previous fiscal period.

An amendment to The Commissioners for Oaths Act, extending the appointment period from two to three years, produced a $34,680 decrease in revenue for 1979-80. The return to the normal volume of appointments for 1980-81 produced an increase in revenue of $41,507 for a total of $87,834 for the fiscal year.

Statistics outlining the appointment of commissioners for oaths, notaries public and the certificates of authentication issued by the Provincial Secretary's Office are available in Table 7 on page 24.

## Communications

*Manager: S. E. Kelly*

Communications provides public relations consultation and advice to the Deputy Minister and senior management,

and an extensive range of public affairs services to the department.

The services include consultation in public relations, media relations and media interviews; coordination of news conferences, media coverage, displays, advertising; production of news releases, staff bulletins and the *Docket*, public information booklets and brochures, the department's annual report, and Court Services Court Calendar.

### News Media Services

Communications issued 112 news releases in 1980-81, including seven on behalf of the Attorney General, 69 for fatality inquiries, 18 for the Crimes Compensation Board, six for Gaming Control and six for the Public Utilities Board.

The branch, staffed by the manager and one public affairs officer, coordinated news media interviews for senior management and responded to over 700 media requests on a variety of issues.

The branch continues to provide a media monitoring service that has been expanded to include most major Canadian dailies and transcripts of radio and television newscasts.

### Print and Audio Visual Projects

In 1980-81, Communications revised or produced several brochures for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, including "The Law on Sudden Death in Alberta," "Sudden Death and the Medical Examiner's Office," "Next of Kin and Settling Estates," and, next of kin "Sudden Death and the Medical Examiner's Office."

In consultation with Court Services and the Judges of The Provincial Court of Alberta, the unit coordinated the production of the court's official seal and the provincial judiciary's warrants of appointment.

This department participated in the province's 75th Anniversary with the production of a display entitled "Justice in Alberta — Yesterday and Today." Communications coordinated the display which was shown at Alberta House during Klondike Days 1980 and presented a visual tour of the department from 1905 to 1980.

### Conferences and Seminars

In 1980-1981, several divisions of the department consulted with Communications for the preparation of conference and seminar materials. Communications coordinated the production of agendas, programs and papers for the Annual Conference of the Association of Canadian Court Administrators, April 20 to 23, 1980, Banff, Alberta; the Western Canada Crown Seminar, March 29 to April 3, 1981, Banff, Alberta; Gaming Control's Annual Workshop, March 13 to 15, 1981, Edmonton, Alberta.

## Court Services

*Executive Manager: M. W. G. Bruce*

Court Services assists the administration of justice by providing administrative support to all courts in the province. This support includes court reporters, justices of the peace, sheriff's services and law libraries.

### Staffing

The position complement of Court Services was increased by 95 positions during the fiscal period. Forty-one positions were distributed to Calgary and 32 to Edmonton. The remaining 22 positions were assigned to Lethbridge, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, St. Paul, Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan and head office.

### Classification and Training

The Judicial Clerk Series Review was submitted to the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees by the Personnel Administration Office August 1, 1980.

The Provincial Court para-legal training program continued during the fiscal period. Five para-legal courses were attended by 80 staff members.

Eighty staff were trained in the operation of court-recording equipment and in the standards and procedures required for the production of court transcripts.

The training of fee justices of the peace continued in 1980-81. Twenty-three justices of the peace attended the initial training program. A refresher training course was developed during the fiscal period and was attended by 39 fee justices.

### Conferences

Alberta was the host of the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian Court Administrators held in Banff April 20 to April 23, 1980. Delegates attended the conference from the Northwest Territories and from all the provinces in Canada. The association meets annually to discuss matters of common interest in the field of court administration.

### Court Automation Project

The Court Automation Project (CAP) is an integrated computerized network designed to monitor and report on a broad range of operational and management information services.

During this fiscal period, the system requirements were analyzed and its specifications were outlined. Software programming is in process.

Court Services plans to begin implementation of the specified penalty portion of the system in November 1981, with the Leduc Provincial Court as the first point of installation.

**Sheriff's Office**

The sheriff and sheriff's officers are responsible for the service of court orders and documents, including jury summonses and writs effecting seizures and evictions.

The activities of the Sheriff's Office are documented in Table 1 on page 21.

**Court Reporting Systems**

Transcript production statistics are compiled on a calendar year basis. During 1980, transcript orders totalled 968,353 pages, in contrast to 844,237 pages produced in calendar year 1979.

**Clerk of the Court**

Caseload statistics for the Court of Queen's Bench for 1980-81 and the comparative information for 1979-80 are provided in Table 1 on page 21.

**Law Libraries**

The libraries provide legal information services to members of the Bench and Bar. The increase in practicing lawyers from 2,991 to 3,277 caused a greater demand for library services. Each month an average of 1,000 legal reference questions were answered and more than 3,000 items were circulated for outside library use. Three new Provincial Court libraries were established in Fort Saskatchewan, Leduc and St. Albert. The St. Paul and Wetaskiwin Provincial Court libraries and the Attorney General's library were reorganized. During 1980-81, 67 law libraries with a book collection of 229,600 volumes were in operation throughout the province.

## Internal Audit

*Chief: K. Smith*

Internal Audit is a new section of the management control process, with an expected three-year development period. Its purpose is to advise both executive and program management of the effectiveness and efficiency of the financial function through an independent, systematic appraisal of departmental activities. Internal Audit, although independent of the operation of systems of internal control, provides an information service to managers for the maintenance of a continuous financial control framework.

## Financial Services

*Manager: D. Medwid*

Financial Services provides a financial support and advisory service to the department.

**Financial Planning**

This section is responsible for advising managers of financial requirements, providing continuous financial analysis of departmental operations and for preparation and presentation of the annual budgets.

**Accounting Operations**

There are three operating units in this section providing the departmental link for central agency processing of financial data: Pay and Benefits, Revenue and Expenditures, Fines and Statistics.

**Pay and Benefits**

Pay and Benefits coordinates the commencement, termination and changes in pay status for all departmental employees. Payroll costs for 1980-81 are approximately $43.5 million or 67% of total departmental expenditure.

**Revenue and Expenditures**

All departmental revenue is reported through the revenue unit but is collected by about 60 departmental operations throughout the province. Revenue for the year-end March 31, 1981 increased by $9,838,611 to $57,201,137. Revenue details are provided in Table 8 on page 25. The expenditures unit processes all non-pay costs. These costs amounted to an estimated $21.4 million during the year. Expenditure details are shown in Table 9 on page 26.

**Fines and Statistics**

Fines and Statistics coordinates the collection and distribution of fines levied by the Criminal Division of Provincial Court, involving the processing of approximately 800,000 documents. The fines levied are distributed to more than 350 municipalities and to the federal and provincial governments. Statistical information is assembled by and provided to various internal and external agencies and other government departments. Details of the fines disbursed are provided in Table 10 on page 27.

## Personal Property Registration Branch

*Manager: P. J. Rose*

The computer-based Central and Vehicle Registries Information System (CVRIS) will automate the registration and search activities of the branch. It will also gather and report statistical and accounting information and will reconcile revenue collections and charges.

During this fiscal year, the pre-design and design phases for CVRIS were completed. On March 23, 1981, the contract to construct the system was signed between Quasar Systems Limited and the Minister of Government Services.

On November 26, 1980, Bill 98, The Personal Property Security Act, was given first reading in the Legislature. The proposed act is a comprehensive code of personal property security law. It will replace The Chattel Security Registries Act, The Conditional Sales Act, The Bills of Sale Act and The Assignment of Book Debts Act. It will also amalgamate the branch's current registries with the Corporate Registry of the Companies Branch, Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

**Vehicle Registry**

The Vehicle Registry records security interest documents and conducts searches on motor vehicles, aircraft, trailers, oilwell drilling equipment and rolling railway stock. During 1980-81, the Vehicle Registry registered 412,468 documents and conducted 352,250 searches representing a 3.63% increase in total activities over the previous year. The total generated was $669,156.

**Central Registry**

The Central Registry records security interest documents and conducts searches on all chattels not recorded in the Vehicle Registry. In addition to personal property, it also registers items under The Partnership Act. During 1980-81, 162,511 documents were registered and 78,871 searches were conducted representing increases from the previous year of 7.27% and 26.20%, respectively. In addition, 10,896 partnerships, limited partnerships and trade names were registered. A total revenue of $322,416 was generated by this activity, representing an increase of 19.26% from the previous year.

Details of the activities of the Central and Vehicle Registries during the fiscal period are provided in Table 11 on page 27.

## Personnel Services

*Manager: G. D. Dawson*

The role of Personnel Services is to provide a stable, productive and effective work force for the department. In order to provide an optimum level of service, Personnel Services underwent major reorganization in the fall of 1980. Selection and classification responsibilities were combined under a new coordinator's position to ensure the continuity of these functions.

Selection and classification teams were established and assigned to specific areas of the department to improve line manager/personel services communication. The employee relations coordinator role became full time with emphasis placed on agreement/regulation interpretation, grievance handling and the provision of consultation to managers on employee-relations matters. The role of the Human Resource Planning Section was reviewed to ensure its programs were complimentary to staff recruitment and retention programs conducted in other sections. Personnel Services and the Pay and Benefits Unit of Financial Services reviewed and modified employee commencement and salary payment procedures.

**Selection and Classification**

One of the major challenges faced by this section was the completion of the Judicial Clerk Series Review. Agreement was reached between the department and the Personnel Administration Office on the establishment of the new five-level judicial clerk series, a hearing officer class, and new court recorder and court recorder supervisor classes. Salaries for the new classes were established in late March 1981 with implementation of pay/classification adjustments scheduled for the following months. Approximately 500 positions were involved in this review.

A number of recruitment initiatives were developed for clerical staff in Court Services and Land Titles. Recruitment standards were upgraded, special advertising campaigns were implemented, interviews were held at community colleges and the use of "job-sharing" was increased.

A modest decrease in the department vacancy rate was realized through improvements in recruitment turnaround time and improved manpower control procedures.

**Employee Relations**

With the establishment of a full-time employee relations coordinator position, a review and updating of existing department personnel policies was begun. Consultation services to managers/supervisors in the areas of contract interpretation and disciplinary action were expanded. Preparatory work on an employee relations workshop for managers and supervisors was commenced.

**Human Resources Planning and Development**

A number of new departmental training courses were developed and implemented during the 1980-81 fiscal year. Subject areas included interpersonal communications, management development, department orientation, interviewing skills and finance.

In the course of the fiscal year, a number of projects were conducted. These included reviews of managerial/employee appraisal forms, modification of the Staff Development Information System and preliminary work on the establishment of a training needs identification system.

With the assistance of the other personnel office sections, an organizational review of the Medical Examiner's Office was conducted and a new structure proposal developed.

**Personnel Statistics**

Please refer to Table 12 on page 28 of this report for statistics on selection and classification transactions and to Chart 1 on page 29 illustrating the department's manpower deployment by region.

## Planning, Research and Development

*Manager: J. G. Gallo*

This branch provides the department with specialized services in planning, research, and the development and implementation of electronic data and word processing systems.

During this fiscal period the branch coordinated the planning and research of policy developments in the areas of national justice statistics, family and juvenile justice, and a variety of other projects including alternatives in the sentencing of young offenders.

The development of electronic data and word processing systems throughout the operating divisions of the department is of considerable significance. Some of these projects include:

— the Central and Vehicle Registries Information System (CVRIS) which records and stores some 2.5 million Personal Property Registration records and Land Titles Data Base System which records and stores registered land records, both developed to provide the public with a more effective search process;

— the Medical Examiner Data System which provides related medical data on all deaths investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office and a more effective and reliable data base for public and scientific inquiry.

# Boards and Associated Agencies

## Alberta Gaming Commission

*Chairman: D. I. Gardner*

The Alberta Gaming Commission was established January 1, 1981, following the recommendation of the Caucus Task Force on Gaming and the Citizens' Advisory Committee on Gaming established in 1979.

The seven-member commission is responsible for licencing gaming events on application by charitable or religious organizations, program development to assist volunteer groups, continuing review of gaming policy and providing information on licenced gaming to the public.

The Gaming Control Branch of the Attorney General's Department reviews applications and makes recommendations to the commission. The branch continues with its gaming control functions by monitoring events, and conducting investigations and audits.

When a concern or uncertainty is identified during the review, the commission provides the applicant with the opportunity to make presentations at one of its regular public hearings. After considering the presentations and all evidence appropriate to the application, the commission makes its licencing decision and issues a Record of Decision, including reasons.

## The Crimes Compensation Board

*Chairman: E. S. Watkins, Q.C.*

Alberta's Crimes Compensation Board was established in 1969 to help victims of violent crime who suffer financial loss as a direct result of injuries.

During the last year, the number of applications for compensation was 204 — 162 from males, 42 from females.

Of the 204 applications, 195 were from individuals who had been injured and suffered loss; the remainder were for loss resulting from death, including claims for support by dependents. The board held hearings on 40 days during this year — 25 in Edmonton, 14 in Calgary and one in Lethbridge.

The number of decisions made and recorded by the board totalled 297. Of these, 169 were final awards, 21 were refusals of the claims and the remainder were interim or supplemental awards, principally to victims with some permanent disability.

The total compensation ordered by the board to be paid in the year was $474,809. Of this, $181,799 was paid in the form of monthly payments for continuing liability.

Because the medical and hospital expenses of most victims in Alberta are covered by the provincial health plans, the medical expenses paid by the board last year, $39,637, were mainly for dental work. Payments to dependents and for funeral expenses totalled $24,577, while $7,025 was paid in legal fees to lawyers appearing on behalf of the applicants.

The most frequent crimes giving rise to applications were:

| | |
|---|---|
| Assault causing bodily harm | 88 |
| Robbery with violence | 20 |
| Causing bodily harm with intent | 20 |
| Attempted murder | 13 |

Twenty crimes involved the use of firearms while 12 involved the use of knives. Approximately one quarter (53) of the applications resulted from excessive use of alcohol.

**Periodic Payments**

The board remains confident that its power to make awards involving periodic payments to a victim, usually on a monthly basis, is a most valuable remedy. A monthly payment involves an annual review by the board, when changes can be made as circumstances change. Over an extended period, the total of monthly payments may well equal the amount the civil courts might have awarded by way of damages.

At present, 42 victims are receiving monthly payments, ranging in amount from $50 to $1,100. The largest amount paid to any one applicant is $99,988 to a man totally disabled in June 1968 by a blow to the head causing permanent damage to his brain. Other cases extending over 10 years now have totals of $68,431, $64,599 and $65,585. All these applicants would have been entitled to social assistance but the payments by the board correspond more closely to the earnings they have lost as a result of a violent crime.

**Pain and Suffering**

As previously reported, the power of the board to award compensation for what is termed pain and suffering is limited, both in circumstances and amount. The total paid last year was $24,150, which compares with $21,450 paid the previous year The scale of these awards is well below that of comparable awards in the civil courts and if payments by the board were brought into line with those by the civil courts, the increase in the cost of the scheme would be phenomenal.

**Publicity**

The board believes that knowledge of The Crimes Compensation Act and of the existence and duties of the board is spreading through the province, although the process is far from complete.

The news media have played a most useful part in spreading information and the board is very appreciative of the cooperation it has received from this quarter.

## The Land Compensation Board

*Chairman: K. J. Boyd*

The Land Compensation Board began the fiscal year with 38 active cases in its docket. During 1980, it received 75

additional applications of which 67 were applications to determine compensation and six were applications by way of notice of motion asking the board to decide issues arising out of the expropriation procedure. The board was also required to act as approving authority for two expropriations.

The board heard 35 cases during 1980 and issued 24 orders determining final compensation for expropriated property, four orders on notices of motion, and one certificate of approval authorizing expropriation. Thirty-seven cases were settled by the parties without need of formal hearings before the board. Sixty-one active cases remained in the docket at the end of the year.

### Extensive Review

In 1978, the board undertook an extensive review of the provisions of The Expropriation Act related to the determination and allowance of costs to expropriated owners. The review resulted in preparation of a report to the Attorney General containing an analysis of the present provisions of the act and the board's suggestions for restructuring and changing the provisions. A number of amendments have now been prepared and it is anticipated these will be presented to the fall session of the legislature.

### Staffing

The board consists of five members, including the chairman, one full-time member and three part-time members. The board has a support staff of five.

### Board Orders

All decisions of the board are given in writing with reasons. Copies of each decision are filed with provincial courthouses and the law libraries of the University of Alberta and the University of Calgary. The board provides free copies of specific decisions on request.

## The Legal Aid Society of Alberta

*Executive Director: B. J. Cavanaugh*

The Legal Aid Society provides legal services in criminal and civil matters to financially eligible applicants. In criminal cases, coverage is available for all indictable offences, and for summary conviction offences where imprisonment or loss of livelihood is a potential result. Civil cases are covered provided that a lawyer recommended the action be commenced or defended and the society believes the cost reasonable compared to relief sought and that the matter has merit or likelihood of success. Divorce case services are provided in circumstances of compelling need. Where possible, clients contribute toward the cost of providing legal services, and generally, efforts are made to recover from clients' expenditures made on their behalf.

The society's executive director, northern director (north of Red Deer), and southern director (Red Deer and south) are members of the Law Society. The director of finance is a registered industrial accountant.

Policy is established by the Law Society of Alberta, and the board of directors of the Legal Air Society is responsible by the terms of agreement to the Law Society for provision of legal aid. The board of directors comprises 15 members, representing the Law Society of Alberta, the provincial and federal governments, and the public.

### Funding

The Legal Aid Society received $4,518,000 funds from the Government of Alberta which in turn recovers funds from the Government of Canada based on a formula involving a per capita sum and a calculation based on gross national product.

### Activity

In the fiscal year 1980-81, the society received 20,538 applications for legal aid services, an increase of 18.1% over fiscal year 1979-80. In the same year, applications approved for services increased by 18%, from 11,893 to 14,039.

### Service and Tariff

All client service and legal assistance is provided by members of the Law Society in private practice, appointed by the society to represent a specific client and acting on a tariff of fees which seeks to represent one-third to one-half of normal private fee ranges. Participation under this tariff represents the substantial contribution of the private Bar to the provision of legal aid. This tariff was increased by 6% effective May 1, 1980, and is normally the subject of annual review.

### Receipts, Disbursements and Cost Factors

For fiscal year 1980-81, the Legal Aid Society received $5,153,943, comprised of $4,518,000 from government, $446,210 from client and other recoveries, and $189,733 from interest and sundry sources. Disbursements in the period totalled $5,387,871. Of that amount, 72.9%, or $3,927,395 was accounted for by legal fees and disbursements. Salary and fringe benefit costs were 21.1% and administrative costs 6% of disbursed funds.

Recoveries, at $46,210, showed an increase of 6.5% from fiscal year 1979-80. The average cost per case in criminal matters was $272, an increase of 5.5%, and there were 10,320 such cases completed. Average cost per case in civil matters was $270, a decrease of 6.3%, with 2,924 cases completed. Average cost increases were 17.2% and 14.9%, respectively. The duty counsel program assisted 13,263 persons on a recorded basis, an increase in activity of 10.8%, at a cost of $329,629.

# Appendices

# TABLE 1

## Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta Caseload Statistics for Year-End March 31, 1981

| | 1980-1981 | 1979-1980 |
|---|---|---|
| **Civil and Criminal Cases** | | |
| Civil actions commenced (excluding divorce) | 68,870 | 65,203 |
| Civil trials heard (excluding divorce) | 1,541 | 2,064 |
| Petitions for divorce commenced | 10,839 | 10,206 |
| Decree nisi granted | 7,822 | 7,212 |
| Criminal trials heard | 2,201 | 2,190 |
| Summary conviction appeals filed | 1,355 | 1,541 |
| Summary conviction appeals heard | 1,832 | 839 |
| **Sheriff** | | |
| Writs of execution filed | 26,189 | 21,130 |
| Distress warrants filed | 17,431 | 17,117 |
| Seizures made (all kinds) | 10,056 | 9,970 |
| Attempted seizures | 10,302 | 10,245 |
| Process served | 27,533 | 26,210 |
| **Revenue** | | |
| Sheriff's fees* | $1,150,272 | $ 901,892 |
| Courts fees | $2,927,472 | $2,610,125 |

* In the Annual Report of the Attorney General year-end March 31, 1980, Sheriff's Fees were reported on a net basis; that is, total fees received, less payments to Sheriff's Officers. Sheriff's Fees are reported in Table 1 on a gross basis.

# TABLE 2

## Gaming Control

## Statement of Licencing, Events and Fees, Calendar Year Ending December 31, 1980

| Type of Event | No. of Licences | No. of Events | Licence Fees | Total Gross | Prizes/ Winnings | Net Expenses | Profit |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bingo | 1,334 | 27,051 | $ — | $ 35,215,255 | $ 24,199,474 | $ 2,969,372 | $ 8,046,409 |
| Casino | 429 | 833 | 255,555 | 57,487,886 | 42,677,251 | 5,306,904 | 9,503,731 |
| Raffle | 2,467 | 6,212 | 20,650 | 9,142,355 | 3,503,231 | 1,227,374 | 4,411,750 |
| Pull Ticket | 330 | 330 | 591,144 | 53,308,000 | 39,354,459 | 3,083,052 | 10,870,489 |
| **Totals** | 4,560 | 34,426 | $867,349 | $155,153,496 | $109,734,415 | $12,586,702 | $32,832,379 |

# TABLE 3

**Activities of the Alberta Land Titles Offices at Year-End March 31, 1981**

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | Increase (Decrease) | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Document Registrations** | | | | |
| Transfers | 140,123 | 140,803 | (680) | (0.5) |
| Mortgages | 101,210 | 105,456 | (4,246) | (4.0) |
| Caveats | 76,014 | 67,887 | 8,127 | 12.0 |
| Liens | 12,207 | 13,232 | (1,025) | (7.7) |
| Discharges | 142,793 | 135,904 | 6,889 | 5.1 |
| Easements and utility rights of way | 14,158 | 14,323 | (165) | (1.2) |
| Miscellaneous | 59,701 | 54,807 | 4,894 | 8.9 |
| **Total** | 546,206 | 532,412 | 13,794 | 2.6 |
| **Survey Plan Registrations** | | | | |
| Subdivision plans | 1,628 | 1,879 | (251) | (13.4) |
| Condominium plans | 213 | 197 | 16 | 8.1 |
| Road plans | 827 | 603 | 224 | 37.1 |
| Right of way plans | 2,025 | 1,763 | 262 | 14.9 |
| Others | 183 | 129 | 54 | 41.9 |
| **Total** | 4,876 | 4,571 | 305 | 6.7 |
| **Tax Recovery** | | | | |
| Titles endorsed | 7,576 | 6,877 | 699 | 10.2 |
| Tax notices issued | 19,583 | 17,112 | 2,471 | 14.4 |
| **Certificates of Titles Issued** | | | | |
| On transfers | 170,876 | 191,794 | (20,918) | (10.9) |
| On new subdivision plans | 30,300 | 33,609 | (3,309) | (9.8) |
| On new condominium plans | 8,999 | 8,483 | 516 | 6.1 |
| **Total** | 210,175 | 233,886 | (23,711) | (10.1) |
| **Services** | | | | |
| TWX searches | 172,528 | 180,125 | (7,597) | (4.2) |
| Telephone searches | 49,186 | 42,535 | 6,651 | 15.6 |
| Photocopies of titles and documents | 5,266,564 | 4,258,251 | 1,008,313 | 23.7 |

## TABLE 4

**Office of the Chief Medical Examiner — Deaths Reported to Year-End March 31, 1981**

| Manner of Death | Calgary | | Southern Rural | | Total Southern Alberta | | Edmonton | | Northern Rural | | Total Northern Alberta | | Total Provincial | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 |
| Natural | 445 | 574 | 604 | 451 | 1,049 | 1,025 | 710 | 653 | 350 | 368 | 1,060 | 1,021 | 2,109 | 2,046 |
| Accidental | 128 | 74 | 86 | 117 | 214 | 191 | 86 | 90 | 166 | 154 | 252 | 244 | 466 | 435 |
| Motor Vehicle | 185 | 81 | 91 | 201 | 276 | 282 | 117 | 108 | 271 | 283 | 388 | 391 | 664 | 673 |
| Suicide | 84 | 86 | 99 | 75 | 183 | 161 | 91 | 106 | 106 | 86 | 197 | 192 | 380 | 353 |
| Homicide | 18 | 21 | 13 | 6 | 31 | 27 | 19 | 25 | 11 | 18 | 30 | 43 | 61 | 70 |
| Unclassified | 6 | 49 | 47 | 32 | 53 | 81 | 82 | 82 | 27 | 38 | 109 | 120 | 162 | 201 |
| Undetermined | 31 | 38 | 22 | 14 | 53 | 52 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 26 | 39 | 45 | 92 | 97 |
| Unknown | 46 | 0 | 25 | 3 | 71 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 81 | 10 |
| **Totals** | 943 | 923 | 987 | 889 | 1,930 | 1,882 | 1,123 | 1,086 | 962 | 977 | 2,085 | 2,063 | 4,015 | 3,885 |
| Cremations, shipments out, dissections | | | | | 1,927 | 1,570 | | | | | 1,748 | 1,432 | 3,675 | 3.002 |
| Shipments in | | | | | 103 | 128 | | | | | 120 | 118 | 223 | 246 |

## TABLE 5

**Public Trustee**

**New Administrations Commenced by Year-End March 31, 1981**

| | Edmonton | | Calgary | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | 1980-81 | 1979-80 |
| **New Administrations** | | | | | | |
| Official guardian | 1,112 | 1,237 | — | — | 1,112 | 1,237 |
| Dependent adult estates | 183 | 141 | 118 | 101 | 301 | 242 |
| Deceased estates | 376 | 417 | 251 | 283 | 627 | 700 |
| **Total Estates Under Administration** | 12,870 | 13,922 | 1,338 | 1,243 | 14,208 | 15,165 |

# TABLE 6

**Public Trustee**

**Trust Balance Sheet for Year-End March 31, 1981**

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 |
|---|---|---|
| **Assets** | | |
| Estate and beneficiaries assets — | | |
| Consolidated investment fund | $ 40,134,599 | $36,216,474 |
| Cash in banks | 14,451,162 | 971,122 |
| | 54,585,761 | 37,187,596 |
| Investments | 42,421,445 | 48,378,615 |
| Mortgages, agreements and notes receivable | 2,388,645 | 2,483,283 |
| Accounts and rent receivable | 663,047 | 758,591 |
| Real estate | 5,682,512 | 4,954,299 |
| Miscellaneous assets | 503,204 | 488,994 |
| **Total** | $106,244,614 | $94,251,378 |
| **Liabilities** | | |
| Estate and beneficiaries liabilities — | | |
| Advances due to the Provincial Treasurer | $ 9,903 | $ 19,682 |
| Accounts payable | 729,299 | 705,330 |
| Agreements and mortgages payable | 355,414 | 338,565 |
| | 1,094,616 | 1,063,577 |
| Estate and beneficiaries capital | 105,149,998 | 93,187,801 |
| **Total** | $106,244,614 | $94,251,378 |

# TABLE 7

**Activities of Official Documents and Appointments, Administrative Services at Year-End March 31, 1981**

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | Increase (Decrease) | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Commissioners for Oaths** | | | | |
| Total appointments | 25,681 | 24,232 | 1,449 | 6.0 |
| Appointments | 10,534 | 5,574 | 4,960 | 88.9 |
| Revenue | $87,834 | $46,327 | $41,507 | 89.6 |
| **Notaries Public** | | | | |
| Full appointments | 6 | 6 | — | — |
| Limited appointments | 404 | 381 | 23 | 6.0 |
| Revenue | $ 2,080 | $ 1,845 | $ 235 | 12.7 |
| **Provincial Secretary's Office** | | | | |
| Notarial certificates issued | 13 | 16 | (3) | (18.8) |
| Certificates of authentication issued | 1,244 | 1,243 | (1) | 0.1 |
| Total fees collected | $ 2,502 | $ 2,502 | — | — |

# TABLE 8

**Financial Services**

**Statement of Revenue for the Year-End March 31, 1981**

(with comparative amounts for the Year-End March 31, 1980)

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | Increase (Decrease) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Licences | | | |
| Lottery | $ 1,012,292 | $ 825,317 | $ 186,975 |
| Other | 89,170 | 46,700 | 42,470 |
| Fees and Permits | | | |
| Personal Property Registration | 1,023,508 | 820,971 | 202,537 |
| Clerks of the Court Act | 2,927,472 | 2,610,125 | 317,347 |
| Land Titles Act | | | |
| Registration | 25,009,215 | 21,342,206 | 3,667,009 |
| Other (1) | 2,451,070 | — | 2,451,070 |
| Public Trustee Act fees and earnings | 1,953,935 | 1,538,364 | 415,571 |
| Sheriff's Fees | 1,150,272 | 901,892 | 248,380 |
| Other | 232,036 | 223,382 | 8,654 |
| Fines & Penalties (2) | | | |
| Government of Canada statute fines | 10,019,010 | 8,323,965 | 1,695,045 |
| Provincial statute fines | 8,291,650 | 8,208,567 | 83,083 |
| Government of Canada | | | |
| Criminal injuries compensation | 207,850 | 200,890 | 6,960 |
| Legal Aid | 2,289,751 | 1,845,154 | 444,597 |
| Refunds of expenditure | 135,679 | 152,993 | (17,314) |
| Miscellaneous | 408,227 | 322,000 | 86,227 |
| **Total Revenue** | $57,201,137 | $47,362,526 | $9,838,611 |
| (1) Assurance fund surplus subject to transfer to Treasury. | | | |
| (2) Fine revenue is comprised of: | | | |
| Provincial Court Criminal (Table 10) | $16,348,967 | $16,358,684 | $ (9,717) |
| Court of Queen's Bench & other | 1,961,693 | 173,848 | 1,787,845 |
| | $18,310,660 | $16,532,532 | $1,778,128 |

# TABLE 9

**Financial Services**

**Statement of Expenditures for the Year-End March 31, 1981**

(with comparative amounts for the Year-End March 31, 1980)

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 | Increase (Decrease) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Minister's office | $ 131,656 | $ 141,463 | $ (9,807) |
| General administration | 6,674,722 | 5,856,418 | 818,304 |
| Court support services | 3,166,775 | 2,178,806 | 987,969 |
| Court operations — Calgary | 7,883,198 | 6,446,561 | 1,436,637 |
| — Edmonton | 9,198,393 | 8,278,827 | 919,566 |
| — Other locations | 7,327,118 | 5,619,219 | 1,707,899 |
| Crown counsel | 6,307,764 | 5,001,464 | 1,306,300 |
| Civil Law Division | 3,957,580 | 2,751,988 | 1,205,592 |
| Gaming Control | 849,193 | 697,820 | 151,373 |
| Other legal services | 1,929,500 | 1,401,829 | 527,671 |
| Legal Aid plan | 4,518,000 | 4,518,000 | — |
| Public Trustee | 3,056,353 | 2,608,985 | 447,368 |
| Personal Property Registration | 1,469,324 | 1,099,079 | 370,245 |
| Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (1) | 15,925 | 310,925 | (295,000) |
| Land Titles — Calgary | 2,326,753 | 2,075,682 | 251,071 |
| — Edmonton | 3,360,757 | 3,221,487 | 139,270 |
| Land Compensation Board | 216,756 | 180,194 | 36,562 |
| Medical Examiner | 1,741,409 | 1,619,972 | 121,437 |
| Crimes Compensation Board | 656,963 | 653,884 | 3,079 |
| Public Utilities Board | 1,780,878 | 1,483,745 | 297,133 |
| Gaming Commission (2) | 35,766 | — | 35,766 |
| **Total Expenditures** | $66,604,783 | $56,146,348 | $10,458,435 |

(1) Motor Vehicle Accident Claims was transferred to Solicitor General during 1980-81.

(2) The Alberta Gaming Commission was established in 1980-81.

# TABLE 10

**Financial Services**
**Statement of Fines Distribution for the Year-End March 31, 1981**
(with comparative amounts for the Year-End March 31, 1980)

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 |
|---|---|---|
| Fines paid to province | $16,348,967 | $16,358,684 |
| Fines paid to federal government | 1,090,612 | 1,050,656 |
| Costs paid to federal government | — | 4 |
| Fines paid to municipalities | 10,301,066 | 10,881,074 |
| Costs paid to municipalities | 2 | 7 |
| Fines paid to Oil and Gas Conservation Board | — | 400 |
| Fees paid to justices of the peace | 88 | 2,282 |
| **Total Fines Distribution** | $27,740,735 | $28,293,107 |

# TABLE 11

**Personal Property Registration Branch**
**Activities and Revenue of the Central and Vehicles Registries**
**at Year-End March 31, 1981**

| | 1980-81 | 1979-80 |
|---|---|---|
| **Activity** | | |
| Documents registered | | |
| Central | 162,511 | 151,497 |
| Vehicle | 412,468 | 412,758 |
| Trade name and partnerships | 10,896 | 9,019 |
| Seizure notices | 4,920 | 4,110 |
| Encumbrance searches | | |
| Central | 78,871 | 62,499 |
| Vehicle | 352,250 | 325,771 |
| **Revenue** | | |
| Registrations, assurance fund and searches | $1,023,508 | $820,971 |

# TABLE 12

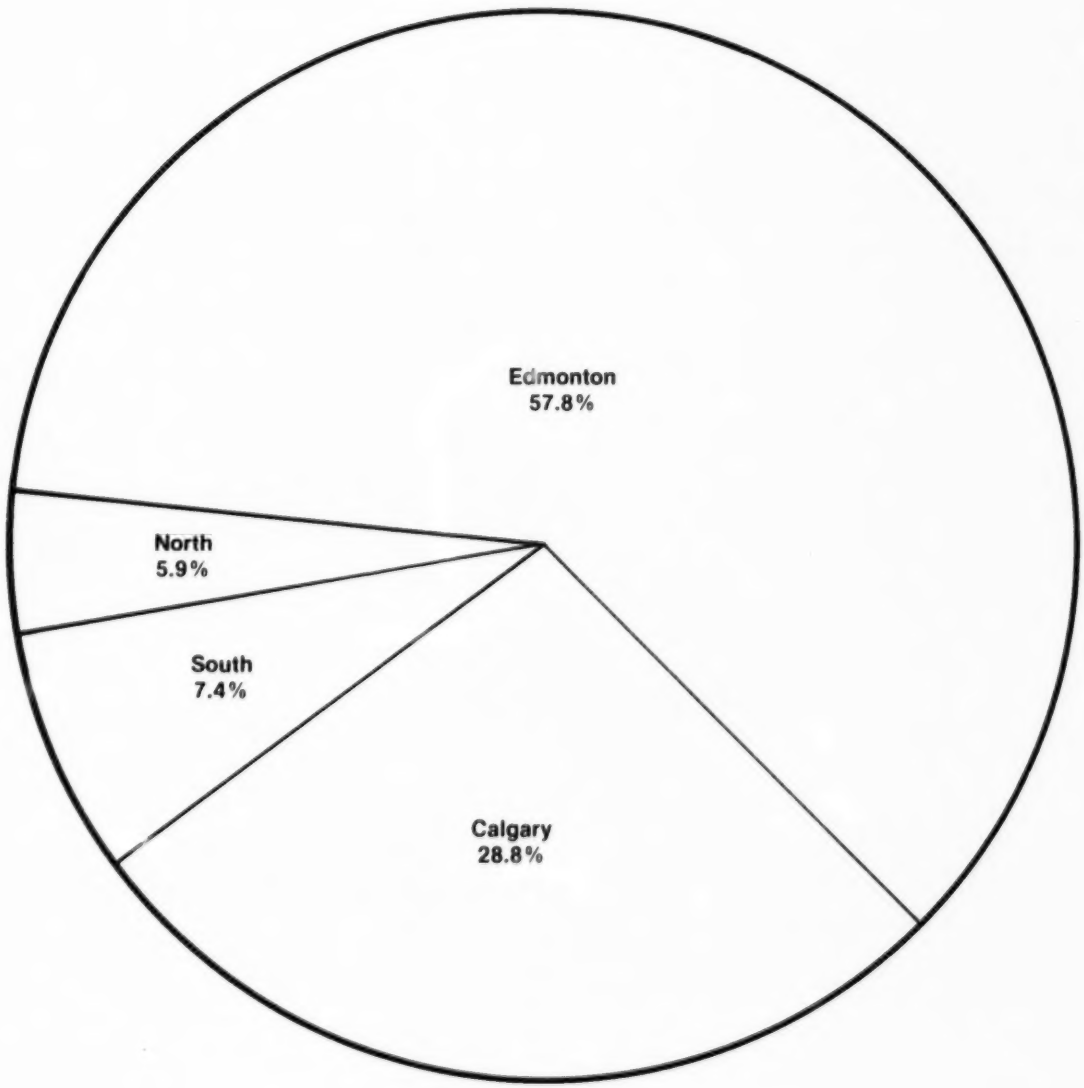
## Personnel Services

### Selection and Classification Transactions by Year-End March 31, 1981

| | |
|---|---|
| **Selection Transactions** | |
| Competitions | 371 |
| Appointments | |
| New employees | 614 |
| Promotions | 159 |
| Transfers | 203 |
| **Total** | 976 |
| **Classification Transactions** | |
| New positions created | 120 |
| Reclassifications | 660 |
| Updates | 72 |
| **Total** | 852 |

# CHART 1

**Geographic Distribution of Alberta Attorney General Staff**
**Year - End March 31, 1981**




**Total Permanent Positions as of March 31, 1981: 2,287**

# Acts Administered by the Attorney General

Administration of Estates Act
Administrative Procedures Act
Age of Majority Act
Alimony Orders Enforcement Act
Animal Protection Act
Arbitration Act
Assignment of Book Debts Act
Bills of Sale Act
Builders' Lien Act
Bulk Sales Act
Chattel Security Registries Act
Clerks of the Court Act
Commissioners for Oaths Act
Conditional Sales Act
Contributory Negligence Act
Court of Appeal Act
Court of Queen's Bench Act
Criminal Injuries Compensation Act
Dangerous Dogs Act
Daylight Saving Time Act
Defamation Act
Department of the Attorney General Act
Devolution of Real Property Act
Domestic Relations Act
Dower Act
Alberta Evidence Act
Execution Creditors Act
Exemptions Act
Expropriation Act
Extra-Provincial Enforcement of Custody Orders Act
Factors Act
Family Relief Act
Fatal Accidents Act
Fatality Inquiries Act
Fraudulent Preferences Act
Frustrated Contracts Act
Garagemen's Lien Act
Gas Utilities Act
Guarantees Acknowledgement Act
Innkeepers Act
Interpretation Act
Intestate Succession Act
Judicature Act
Jury Act
Justices of the Peace Act
Land Titles Act
Landlord's Rights on Bankruptcy Act
Law of Property Act
Legal Profession Act
Legitimacy Act
Limitation of Actions Act
Alberta Lord's Day Act
Maintenance Order Act
Married Women's Act
Masters and Servants Act
Matrimonial Property Act
Mechanical Recording of Evidence Act
Minors' Property Act
Notaries Public Act
Oaths of Office Act
Occupier's Liability Act
Partnership Act
Perpetuities Act
Petty Trespass Act
Police Act*
Possessory Liens Act
Proceedings Against the Crown Act
Provincial Court Act
Provincial Court Judges Act
Public Inquiries Act
Public Trustee Act
Public Utilities Board Act
Queen's Counsel Act
Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act
Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act
Regulations Act
Revised Statutes 1980 Act
Road Building Machinery Equipment Act
Sale of Goods Act
Seduction Act
Seizures Act
Summary Convictions Act
Surrogate Court Act
Survival of Actions Act
Survivorship Act
Tort-Feasors Act
Trustee Act
Ultimate Heir Act
Unconscionable Transactions Act
Warehouse Receipts Act
Warehousemen's Lien Act
Wills Act
Women's Institute Act
Woodmen's Lien Act

* Jointly administered by the Solicitor General and the Attorney General.